

The Ohio Democrat.

"Unlibertas, ibi patria."—Cicero.—WHERE LIBERTY DWELLS, THERE IS MY COUNTRY.

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OUR COUNTRY.

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Our country! 'tis a glorious land—
With broad arms stretched from shore to shore—
The proud Pacific chafes her strand,
She hears the dark Atlantic roar;
And nurtured on her ample breast,
How many a goodly prospect lies
In Nature's wildest grandeur drest,
Enamelled with her loveliest dyes.

Rich prairies, deck'd with flowers of gold,
Like sunlit oceans roll afar;
Broad lakes her azure heavens behold,
Reflecting clear each trembling star,
And mighty rivers, mountain born,
Go sweeping onward, dark and deep,
Through forests where the bounding fawn
Beneath their sheltering branches leap.

And cradled 'mid her clustering hills,
Sweet vales in dreamlike beauty hide,
Where love the air with music fills,
And calm content and peace abide:
For plenty here her fulness pours,
In rich profusion o'er the land,
And, sent to seize her generous stores,
There prowls no tyrant's hireling hand.

Great God! we thank thee for this home—
This bounteous birthland of the free:
Where wanderers from afar may come,
And breathe the air of liberty—
Still may her flowers untrammelled spring,
Her harvests wave, her cities rise;
And yet! Time shall fold his wing,
Remain Earth's loveliest paradise!

HOPE.—We cut the following beautiful and graphic description of hope and its uses from the *Detroit Spirit* of '76—

Hope is the great mainspring of virtue. It gives action to all animate existence. It is the bread which feeds ambition, the incentive to perseverance, the compass to virtue, the shield to christianity, and the only solace to death. If it is blighted, the pilgrimage of life is like a troubled sea—we float down its dark stream like the lost mariner on the lullow deck. Aided by its beams, the immortal mind looks beyond time and anticipates the beauty of another and happier existence. The beauty of the rainbow vanishes in the storm, the meteor's flash is but a moment; the glittering gems of heaven will one day go out; the sun himself be extinguished, but the star of hope shines besetuous for ever.

POLITICS.

(From the Baltimore Argue.)

PLEDGES AND PROMISES.

Previous to the late election, our ears were constantly saluted with the promises and pledges of what the Whigs were going to do if they elected Gen. Harrison. Now, foretold, we hear not a word about the 'flowing of milk and honey,' which would follow a change in the Administration. Probably they proceed upon the principle, 'that promises are cheap and cost nothing,' as Mr. Webster says; and justly concluding that as they were made only to deceive the people and 'bought' em all round with specious appearances, it now matters but little whether the people are satisfied or not. But they are not so easily put off. If the streets are to flow with milk and honey, they want to see the stream, and seeing it, they will want the spoon to eat it with. Likely enough the people have begun to think with Gen. Harrison, that 'the man who makes a pledge before election will be sure to break it afterwards,' for surely so far as his party and their pledges are concerned, this is confirmed by daily experience. Every Democrat should bear these pledges in mind, every man who wanted a 'change,' and voted with a view of bettering things, should remember the promises, and the Whigs should be constantly kept in mind in reference to the matter: in a word, it should be 'kept before the people,' so that they may observe the first step towards their fulfillment, or their violation. What have they promised? What have they NOT promised? Who can tell? Why, one thing they have promised, to make money plenty everywhere, without any regard to circumstances. They have promised that the expenses of the National Government shall not exceed \$10,000,000 a year. They have promised to conduct the government free from any considerations of a party character. Their President too has promised that he will not suffer any officer of the General Government under him, to interfere in elections, any further than to give his vote. The clamors they made after Ogles, kitchen and chamber excursions, have pledged them to make no appropriations for the President's house; it must be fitted up with the commonest things, to comport with the back woodsman's 'log cabin.' They are pledged to put an end to the Florida war, at least to expend no considerable amount of money in its prosecution. They are pledged to devote the sales of the public lands to internal improvements. They are pledged to distribute the same money among the people of the several States. And last though not least, they are pledged to be honest, and

not squander or plunder the monies of the people. These things are known, and they are as familiar as the alphabet with the people. They have been reiterated from a thousand tongues, and yet already in the flush of victory, they are disclosing principles they disclaimed throughout the contest. They have such convenient memories, they have forgotten every thing. But the people will remember! The people will demand a fulfillment of their promises. We must have plenty of every thing—every man must be made rich—every man must have his interests gratified, and if this should not be, why then—What!—

(From the N. Orleans Intelligence.)
A NATIONAL BANK.

The important results which will be consequent upon the creation of a national Bank are varied and interesting in the extreme, both in a political and fiscal point of view.

As we have already stated, the capital of such an institution, we presume will not be fixed at less than Fifty millions. The amount of capital, however, will be of no importance in the consideration of its constitutionality; for, if it is constitutional at all to create a National Bank, one with a capital of three or five hundred millions may be incorporated with as much propriety as with that of three or five thousand; but, assuming the amount of fifty millions as the minimum, for which the Federal party will contend [and that is a tremendous amount to be wielded by irresponsible and self interested agents,] it is not reasonable to suppose that the friends of constitutional right, equality and liberty, although they may be in the minority, will quietly look on and see this gigantic power built up & fastened upon the government in defiance of all constitutional barriers, without a struggle. No, no—if such be now the hopes of Federalism, they will be vain indeed. Democracy is not yet extinguished, and, though its opponents may affect to consider it as dead, they will find it even "powerful in death." Even an attempt, then, to create such a power may be attended with consequences we would gladly avert, and we warn its friends beforehand. Whenever such an attempt shall be made, it will be met at the threshold with an opposition so decisive in its character, and firm in its purposes as, may lead on to the creation of an excitement which it would be difficult to allay as it would be to stay the impetuous fury of a tornado with a barricade of feathers. If, then, the bare attempt to incorporate a great monied power be sufficient to create apprehension and alarm of so serious a nature, what may reasonably be supposed to be the results, should the Federal party, intoxicated with victory, and wild with overwhelming power, madly rush onward in their unallowable purpose, and rear this tyrannical monster over the liberties of the people.

(From the Richmond Va. Enq.)
FEDERAL ELEMENTS OF THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION—THE POWER BEHIND THE THRONE.

Gen. Harrison is, of course the President. But there is a power behind the throne greater than the throne itself. Mr. Clay is the Real Apparent. He is to be the leader of the new administration. Mr. Webster goes into the Department of State, with the consent and under the auspices of Mr. Clay. The little jealousies and heart-burnings which have prevailed between these two ambitious aspirants, are to be buried—and the genius of Webster, which has always felt rebuked in the presence of Clay's superior energies, is to be directed for the advancement of his rival. Gen. Harrison retires at the end of four years. Mr. Clay is to become the candidate of the Federal party. Mr. Webster gives way, for the present, with the hope of succeeding Mr. Clay. The one goes into the Cabinet and will attempt to promote his own election, by advocating the pretensions of Mr. Clay. Mr. C. remains in the Senate, in order to supervise the Administration, to control both Houses of Congress, and to shape the appointments through the Senate. Even Mr. Rives, who has so absurdly sacrificed his bright prospects to his uncontrollable passions, will be compelled to give way to Messrs. Clay and Webster, and then to look to the merest chapter of accidents, for the gratification of his own ambition.

Can any observer mistake the designs of the high contracting parties? The daring spirit of Henry Clay will rule the councils of the next Administration. He will lord it over both Harrison and Webster. He understands thoroughly the character of both his allies. He knows how to play upon the ruling passion of the President Elect, the vanity which seeks its gratification in public eclat—and he equally understands the key to Mr. Webster's heart. General Harrison has already recognised his pretensions to the Presidency—and in the very face of his own pledges, has come forward at Versailles to select him, in a manner not to be mistaken, for the line of the succession.

Nor is it scarcely possible to mistake the spirit in which the Government is to be administered. It will be dyed deep in Federalism. Messrs. Clay and Webster will give a tone to the whole machine. The restraints which have been imposed by the strict construction of the constitution, are to be superseded. Powers are to be exercised, which were never intended to be conferred by its framers. The Independent Treasury is to be abolished, only for the purpose of throwing the fiscal agency into the hands of the Pennsylvania Bank of the United States—which is hereafter to receive a National charter, or to prepare the way for the establishment of a National Bank, with larger capital and of longer duration. The mystery which envelopes Mr. Clay, for the present, will be dissipated in due season. The time is coming, when he will not repeat, as he said the other day in the Senate Chamber, upon being asked what substitute he would propose, for the Independent Treasury, that "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." He will soon show his hand, and boldly play the game. His late visit to N. Y. and Philadelphia, may have prepared the way for his arrangements. They will be developed in due time. The leaders of the Administration will also attempt to distribute the proceeds of the Public Lands, and to raise the Tariff. The CHANGE which Mr. Webster threatened, and the REFORMS which Mr. Clay promised, are calculated to sweep away all the restrictions which Gen. Jackson assisted to produce. There is too much reason to anticipate that the iron age of the Federal Dynasties of the two Adamses may be snuffed to be brought back upon us.

From such a combination of factious elements who can expect any good fruit! Grapes do not grow upon thorns, nor figs upon thistles. The water appears to be poisoned at the fountain head. Who can rationally expect it to run pure in its channel?

At all events, under every aspect of the case, it becomes us to stand to our arms. Should Gen. Harrison, against all rational probability, administer the Government upon better principles, than we have any reasons to expect, our organization will do no mischief. But should he realize all the fears which it is impossible not to entertain, then do we stand ready to meet the invaders at the very breach. We must then fly our flag,—and maintain our principles. Men may err and deceive us; but principles are eternal.

(From the N. Y. Herald.)
THE U. S. BANK.

The United States Bank, like any other knave who will not pay his debts, except on compulsion, has benefited by the depreciation of its paper, and the continuance of non-resumption, probably several millions, which may be likened to so much black mail from the public. Its customers and all those connected with its morals and its destiny, have reaped similar advantages and their quotas of black-mail. It is not to be supposed that these institutions would so soon forget their plundering propensities as to resume, merely to restore the currency, and to serve the public, while they have to sustain positive losses by the operation. There is some other object in view. The laws of Pennsylvania, and the opinion of the Governor, may be referred to as the coercive means of a resumption. But we know too well how a large bank, or combination of banks, can wield Governors and Legislatures to their will, as gunblers do their cards, to believe that they could not infuse such a spirit as they choose into the Councils of the State.

Such being the naked facts of the case, stripped of bombast and verbiage; there can be no doubt but a portion of the monied interests of our large Atlantic cities are at the moment organizing means to operate in some shape upon the new Administration, when it comes into power on the 4th of March next—and also upon the next Congress, which may meet in September next. Coalitions and combinations are developing themselves among those financial interests that heretofore were rivals, and bitterly opposed to each other. What shape they may take, before a few months have elapsed, it is as difficult to tell, as to predict the onward drapery of a pickpocket after he has plundered enough in one dress.

(From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.)
THE U. S. BANK STATEMENT.

In the present posture of our currency it is of great importance that the real condition of the Bank of the U. S. should be correctly understood. The exposition of its affairs as published by Jaudon in London, throws a good deal of light on the subject, though not so much as the public would like to have, nor as the exigency seemed to demand. The fact that this statement represents the Bank as possessing its capital entire and a surplus of over three millions, while at the same time the stock is allowed to sell in market at two thirds of its par value, has caused

some persons to conclude that they who know the most about the matter, know the statement to be fallacious.

(Here follows a review of the assets and liabilities, which taking the most favorable view of leaves a deficiency of many millions, after which, the Journal says:)

Under these circumstances, the effort on the part of the bank to resume specie payments and on the part of the other Philadelphia banks to assist in doing so is preposterous. The Bank cannot continue to pay specie nor to pay at all, and it is as shame that the currency and business of the country should be again agitated and put in jeopardy for its sake. The proper course is liquidation. Justice to its stockholders and the public demand that it should make no more sacrifices to keep up appearances.

(From the Spirit of the Times.)

THE CASE OF McLEOD, AND THE BURNING OF THE STEAM BOAT CAROLINE.

We mentioned yesterday the admission by Mr. Fox, the British Minister, in one of his letters to the Secretary of State, that the burning of the Caroline was the "act of persons in her Majesty's service, obeying the orders of their superior authorities," and as the whole of that outrage will probably come up again before the public, in consequence of the arrest of Mr. McLeod charged with having been concerned in it, and whose release the British government through Mr. Fox has demanded, we feel disposed to make a few remarks which we conceive germane to the matter. This outrage, it will be recollected, took place on the night of the 29th December 1837. The steamboat Caroline was lying at the wharf at Schlosser, N. York, in peace and quietness. She was an American boat, was owned, and managed by American citizens, and carried an American flag. She had been employed during the day as a ferry-boat, by her proprietor, a citizen of Buffalo, and had carried men, who from motives of curiosity or business, had chosen to visit the adjacent island. Her crew were asleep after the toils of the day, and several strangers too who had sought a refuge on board of her from the inclemency of the weather, were peacefully on board, thanking Heaven for the hospitality extended to them. About midnight boats filled with armed men left the British shore, and with muffled oars approached the devoted vessel. The watch on board saw them, but he could have had no idea of the destruction intended.—The boat had been engaged in a harmless trade, and anticipating none, was totally unprepared for a murderous attack. In a moment after, British officers, and British soldiers, sprang upon her deck, and mocking at the flag of our country, and despising its boast of protection, commenced with insatiable greediness the work of death. The sleepers aroused from their beds by the sharp fire of pistols, the clangor of swords, the oaths and imprecations of the assailants, and the horrid cry as they butchered the Americans, of "give the d—d rebels no quarter!" They rushed on deck, and a fearful picture presented itself. All was confusion, terror and bloodshed. One American, Mr. Durfee had reached the waif in safety, in his flight, for like his fellows, he was totally unarmed, when a bullet pierced his brain, and with a leap and a groan of agony, he fell and expired.

How many were thus inhumanly butchered, the records of eternity alone can show. Some were able to drag themselves, wounded and mutilated, to a place of safety. One, a citizen of Buffalo, whose only crime was that he had slept that night on board the Caroline, was found dead upon the shore and it is conjectured that several met their doom in a still more terrific way, by remaining concealed on board the boat during the massacre. The British boast that in this valorous attack upon sleeping and unarmed men, they slew six or seven! So be it. They are welcome to the glory—and we hope our citizens will never forget it! The scene did not end here: "When the boat's crew were all escaped or murdered—or perchance concealed in her, she was cut loose, towed into the stream and set on fire, and a signal light was seen on the British shore to guide the boats on their return from their expedition. The scene now became one of awful sublimity. The Caroline was in flames, and the resistless flood was bearing her on toward the cataract. As the cres curved about her her engine began to work by the heat of the burning vessel, and the pitchy flames threw a red glare on the wild scenery around her. It showed the wintry forest, and glowed upon the waters—it revealed the rebel island, and the barracks of the British soldiers, and showed too, the gashy corpse and clot of gore of the murdered Durfee. Onward the burning vessel was borne, and nearer and nearer the mighty precipice. From one side she was viewed with exultation—from the other with deep threats of vengeance; and as she neared the foaming gulf—the Fall of Niagara; they tell of dark forms that were seen

amid the flames—and of death shrieks, that rose shrill and piercing above the noise of the rushing waters. Still she rushed on, and until her burning timbers were extinguished in the flood, and a few blackened fragments, thrown upon the shore, were all that remained of the Caroline." Amidst the horrid grandeur of this scene, a shout of triumph from the other shore announced the return of the midnight murderers. They had with them two boys as prisoners!

This, reader, is a true picture of the "burning of the Caroline," an outrage upon our national honor, and an insult to our national flag, to say nothing of the heinous violation of individual rights and the assassination of our peaceful & innocent citizens, which, to use the language of a resolution of a meeting of the citizens of Buffalo on the occasion, has "neither been atoned for, avenged nor forgotten!" Nay, further,—the miscreants clothed in British authority who were most conspicuous in this infamous affair, instead of being suitably punished for their inhuman, and dastardly conduct have been absolutely rewarded and promoted, by their government for the zeal, and alacrity they exhibited! Even now, the same "virtuous" government steps forward on behalf of Alexander McLeod, the late Deputy Sheriff of Niagara district in Upper Canada, a man arrested and imprisoned by the authorities of Lockport, N. Y. on a charge of murder and arson and distinctly recognised by two American citizens, as having been actively engaged in the outrage upon the Caroline, and insists upon his unconditional liberation! The British minister would make the whole matter one of diplomatic discussion between the two governments, in which case probably be atoned for at the day of judgment and not only talks of the "necessity" of releasing McLeod immediately—a threat that is too despicable for notice—but recommends the "taking such steps as may be requisite for preventing others of her Majesty's subjects from being persecuted or molested in the U. States in a similar manner in future." This is the usual course of the British government. They first send a body of British soldiers into our territory in a time of peace, murder our citizens, take, burn, and destroy their property, and then boldly declare it an "unfortunate affair," as they did the Battle of Navarino, profess a willingness to submit it to "discussion" and insist upon our freeing from punishment the felons who accomplished it, when we catch them with in our borders. History is full of such "unfortunate" events on the part of that faithless and hypocritical nation. It is their common practice to summarily reject what they conceive to be a wrong, and afterwards, shock at the palpable infringement of the law of nations and of humanity, of which they have been guilty, to be willing to submit their conduct to diplomatic "discussion!" Will "discussion" bring to life, the murdered dead? Will "discussion" restore the burning vessel to her owner? Will "discussion" atone for the outrage upon our national dignity, or heal the festering wound upon our national honor?

It appears that Mr. McLeod was arrested on the 12th ult. that after the examination of witnesses he was finally committed for trial on the 18th, and placed in confinement in the jail at Lockport, awaiting the seizures, which will be held there in February next. Mr. Fox, in reply to Mr. Fox, remarks very properly, that the case does not present an occasion in which, under the constitution and laws of the Union it would be proper for the Federal government to interpose; that it was committed within the State of New York, and comes clearly within the competency of its tribunals. This is true independence. If McLeod be guilty, let him suffer the penalties of the laws of that land whose peace he has violated; if he be innocent, he will doubtless be acquitted. The blood of the murdered still cries for vengeance, and it is to be silenced by a piece of diplomatic sophistry on the part of a treacherous monarch and her crafty advisers? Forbid it Heaven! Our worthy President maintains that there is no principle of international law, or indeed of reason or justice, which entitles such offenders to impunity before the legal tribunals, when coming voluntarily with their independent and undoubted jurisdiction, and we honor him for the utterance of such a bold; just and manly sentiment. Were we to do, as the British would do under such circumstances, we would hastily hang Mr. McLeod, and then "discuss" the propriety of the act when too late to effect any good in the premises. We hope, however, that justice will be done and from the common-sense view our government has taken, and the honest straight-forward course, it has so far pursued in this matter, we have no reason to anticipate any thing else.

Good and bad habits.—It is good to take a newspaper and bad to keep a dog.

DESCRIPTION OF A GOOD WIFE.

She hadn't no ear for music, Sam, but she had a capital eye for dirt, and for poor folks, that's much better. No one never seen as much dirt in my house as a fly couldn't brush off with his wings. Bustin' gals may boast of their epinets, and their gytars, and their eye-talian airs, and their cars for music—but give me the gal, I say that has an eye for dirt, for she's the gal for my money.

SAM SLICK.

(From the Globe.)

THE PROSPECT BEFORE US.

Every appearance indicates that the Government of the U. States, under the new Federal dynasty, will be modified in all respects after that of England, where the monarch is a mere puppet, equally above the responsibility of doing wrong, and below the obligation of doing right. In a hereditary monarchy, where the destinies of the people are committed to the mere accident of birth, this shifting of all responsibility from the shoulders of the peasant who occupies the throne, to the ministers who administer his power, is perhaps the safest mode of guarding against the probability of having a fool or a madman for a sovereign. The substitution of the ministry as a shield to the king, is therefore a measure of wise precaution in a hereditary monarchy where the people cannot rid themselves of a sovereign except by submitting to a revolution, accompanied by all the horrors of a civil war.

But in a free Government, where the Chief Magistrate is the choice of the people, he ought to be directly amenable to them for his principles and conduct. The people are not to look to his ministers; they hold him directly and personally responsible for his own Administration. They are not to be told that the President of the United States, like the King of England, can do no wrong, or that his ministers are to have the credit of success, or the disgrace of failure. He is a substance, not a shadow; the people have voluntarily chosen him to administer certain powers conferred to him by the Constitution, for which he, and he alone, is responsible; nor are they to be put off by the paltry evasion, that the ministers of his selection, voluntarily chosen by himself, cannot be directed and controlled by his will. He is expected to place himself in the van, to assume and exercise the powers committed to him by the will of the people, and not to shirk from all responsibility behind his ministers, as if he were a legitimate king and could do no wrong.

General Harrison, however, it would seem, has adopted the English plan of Government. He began by declining a declaration of his principles, and, according to all appearance, will end in shirking from all responsibility for his actions. He is to govern at second hand; or rather, like her Majesty of England, not at all. He will carry the standard, as Mr. Webster says, but he will not, although so consummate a General assumes the command of the army. He will do for a locum tenens, but not for principal. He will speak through the mouths, and act by the hands of others. His measures have already been anticipated by Messrs. Clay and Webster, and before he has assumed the reins, his chariot has been driven from under him. He is to be King Log, and to have two vicious Storks for his ministers. He will neither advise, direct, nor control; he will only flourish "the standard;" he will do nothing, and be responsible for nothing; and whether, like Queen Victoria, he will be permitted to choose his domestic handmaids, remains a matter of profound speculation.

What a caricature is this, of our straightforward manly open, bold, and free system of government, where every public functionary, from the highest to the lowest, acts his own part, and is responsible for his actions. It operates as an entire change in that system, and not only approaches to, but is identified with that of England, having a Chief Magistrate entirely irresponsible to the people; who dodges behind his ministers, hides himself from the eyes of those he governs, and neither dares to speak what he thinks, or act what his judgment dictates. It is a monarchy in all but its name—an irresponsible government in every thing but its form. It is a sly, insidious plan, to undermine and destroy the great essential principles of this government—that of direct responsibility of the ruler to the people—to render our elections a farce, and our freedom but a name.

Among the many baneful consequences which have resulted from that intimate union of interests between the borrowers of the U. States and the lenders of England, of which we have lately had such striking and alarming examples, this new modification of our Government is not the least. If we mistake not, we shall see it fully developed in the course of the ensuing four years. A new influence and a new power will be engrafted on our Government—a foreign money power, everywhere adverse in its interests and its principles, to the well being, nay, the very existence of our free and liberal institutions. The concentrated money power of the United States has been harnessed to the "concentrated money power of England, and both will be arrayed against the principles of Democracy.—The needy borrowers of the U. States from the bank of Pennsylvania to the speculator in railroads, canals, and new lands, will become the tools and instruments of the money-lenders abroad. They will play into their hands, follow their lead, and do their bidding, like fettered bondmen, who live, or act what their judgment tells them, alone in the forbearance of their foreign creditors. For the generous impulse of patriotism, the love of glory and the desire of Union, we shall exchange a servile, sordid miserable feeling of abject dependence on the money power of a foreign nation. Instead of fashioning the measures of our national policy by the standard of national rights and honor, the inquiry will be, whether they will be satisfactory to the money-lenders of England—whether they will raise the price of our stocks abroad,